

## School Uniform Requirement Waived for First Semester

At the July 27 regular board of education meeting, the School Board approved a measure to suspend/waive Section B in the Student Dress Code, which is the requirement for standardized dress (school uniforms). This waiver will run through December or until second semester, which begins January 4.

Section A of the dress code remains in effect.

### A. GENERAL DRESS AND APPEARANCE GUIDELINES

Generally, dress and grooming standards as determined by the student and his or her parents will be deemed acceptable. However, the board prohibits any appearance or clothing that does the following:

1. violates the Anson County Schools mode of standardized dress (see Section B, below);
2. is substantially disruptive to the educational process or operation of the school;
3. promotes alcoholic beverages, tobacco, the use of controlled substances or other illegal behavior, or is of a sexual nature;
4. is gang-related (for more information on gang-related attire, see policy 4328, Gang-Related Activity);
5. is sheer, mesh or has excessive holes;
6. reveals undergarments;
7. is vulgar or obscene; or
8. endangers the health or safety of the student or others.

Principals, in conjunction with sponsors, coaches or other persons in charge of extracurricular activities, may regulate dress and grooming of students who participate in a particular activity if the principal reasonably believes that the student's dress or grooming creates a hazard, or may prevent, interfere with or adversely affect the purpose, direction or effort required for the activity to achieve its goals.

### B. STANDARDIZED DRESS

Students at all schools must follow the approved mode of standardized dress as set forth below. Anson County Schools pride apparel may be worn as part of the approved standardized dress.

All clothing must be worn appropriately – i.e., no inside-out or backwards clothes, no rolled up pants legs, belts must be buckled and worn at the waistline, etc.

#### 1. Shirts

Golf/polo or tee shirts are permissible but must be a solid school color. Students at all schools may wear white, navy or orange. In addition, students at the following schools may wear the following colors:

- a. Anson Academy – white, navy or orange
- b. Anson Early College High – royal blue, gold or gray
- c. Anson High School – white, navy or orange
- d. Anson Middle School – white, navy or orange
- e. Ansonville Elementary – royal blue
- f. Lilesville Elementary – royal blue
- g. Monven Elementary – green
- h. Peachland-Polkton Elementary – royal blue
- i. Wadesboro Primary – purple
- j. Wadesboro Elementary – purple

Woven button-down, collared dress shirts are permissible and may be multicolored at all high schools but must be a solid color at all elementary and middle schools.

Mock turtlenecks or turtlenecks are permissible and may be multicolored at all high schools but must be a solid color at all elementary and middle schools.

Crew neck sweaters or sweatshirts that do not hang past the straddle of the pants are permissible and may be multicolored at all high schools but must be a solid color at all elementary and middle schools.

All shirts and blouses must cover the waist or midriff. Tank tops and spaghetti straps are prohibited.

Form fitting spandex material, nylon, leather, denim, corduroy, overalls and sweat shirts are prohibited.

#### 2. Pants, Shorts, Skirts, Jumpers, Dresses and Skorts

All such "bottom" garments must be khaki (tan) or navy in color. No other colors may be visible on the garment (e.g., pockets, buttons, zippers, etc.).

Garments cannot have frays and must be hemmed and not dragging the floor.

Pants must be worn above the hips at all times. "Sagging" pants are prohibited.

Shorts, skirts, jumpers, dresses and skorts must pass the "finger-tip" test. This means that when the student's shoulders are relaxed and arms are fully extended toward the knee at the student's side, the student's finger-tips do not reach beyond the material on the garment. This includes any slits on clothing.

Form fitting spandex material, nylon, leather, denim, corduroy, overalls and sweat pants are prohibited.

#### 3. Footwear

Proper footwear must be worn at all times. Shoes that have laces must be laced, tied and fit. Shoes must have backs or heel straps.

No cleats may be worn inside.

#### 4. Outerwear

Jackets and overcoats are permissible and may be multicolored at all high schools but must be a solid color or a combination of white, navy and/or orange at all elementary and middle schools.

#### 5. Headwear

Hats, sweatbands, bandanas and sunglasses are prohibited inside school buildings.

#### 6. Personal Appearance

Combs and other hair grooming items cannot be visible in the hair. Piercings are allowed unless they present a health hazard or disrupt the educational process or operation of the school.

### C. CONSEQUENCES

Before receiving disciplinary consequences, a student who is not in compliance with this policy will be given a reasonable period of time to make adjustments so that he or she will be in compliance. Disciplinary consequences for a student who fails to comply after being offered this opportunity shall be consistent with Section D of policy 4300, Student Behavior Policies. The superintendent or designee shall list in the Code of Student Conduct the specific range of consequences that may be imposed on a student for violation of the dress code.

### D. WAIVERS, ACCOMMODATIONS, AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Each school administration and staff may choose days during the school year when students are not required to adhere to the approved standardized dress code (e.g., picture day, school spirit day, educational character costume day, etc.).

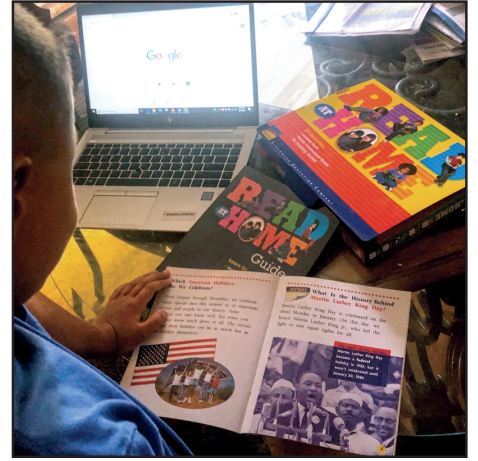
Reasonable accommodations will be made by the principal or designee for those students who, because of a sincerely held religious belief, cultural heritage, special needs or medical reason, request a waiver of a particular guideline or provision of the standardized dress code.

Reasonable accommodations will be made by the principal or designee to accommodate students involved in special duties, activities or projects approved by the school. This would include but is not limited to: athletics, vocational classes and projects, special events or other activities that would allow for non-conforming dress on a school campus.

Parents who require financial assistance to comply with this policy may submit a request for assistance in writing to the principal.

## Students Participate in Virtual Summer Jump Start Learning Program

The North Carolina State Board of Education approved \$70 million in federal funds in early June for summer programs aimed at students in kindergarten through fourth grade who needed extra reading and math whose learning had been negatively affected by the impacts of COVID-19. Performance data for students on special learning plans as well as students at risk academically prior to March 16, 2020, were utilized in determining participation in the Summer Jump Start program. Parents of identified students were contacted for an invite to participate in the scheduled program.



Anson County Schools developed their Virtual Summer Jump Start Plan in accordance with the requirements outlined in legislation and guidance provided by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. The Summer Jump Start Program launched on July 21 and concluded July 30. The program's purpose was to give students in need of the most academic support a chance to catch up before the school year starts this fall. Students connected with their teachers through pre-recorded lessons that fit their schedules. Because each student has individual needs, they followed personalized learning paths and had direct support from their teacher.

We know especially during this crisis that a vital part of our programs are to create conditions where students can thrive in their learning; this summer it is even more critical for students that needed a "jump start" to the upcoming school year.

## Anson County Schools Online High School Transcript and Education Verification Request Portal

Former students, college/university admissions officers, employers and verifications companies must now submit high school transcript requests, document requests, and education verifications online.

In the interest of convenience, security and efficiency, all student records requests and education verification requests must now be submitted online using our new online request portal. The request portal will guide you through the ordering process. You will receive automated email updates as your order is processed.

On the Anson County Schools webpage - [www.ansonschools.org](http://www.ansonschools.org) - under Navigation, click "Transcript Request/Education Verification" to start the process.

For information about document fees and turnaround times, please click on the FAQ link in the upper right corner of the Transcript Request/Education Verification webpage.

## Anson County Schools Raised \$5,691.78 for Relay For Life!

The fight against cancer is something that touches everyone. We aren't just fighting one type of cancer; we're fighting for every birthday threatened by every cancer in every community.

Even though COVID-19 cut our fundraising campaign short this year, we are extremely proud of Anson County Schools and the tireless efforts of all our students, staff and families who worked together to raise \$5,691.78 for Anson County Relay for Life!

Mark your calendars for the 2021 Relay for Life event on May 7, 2021!



## Exciting News - Science Kits Will be Provided During Remote Learning

Due to the overwhelmingly successful response with the virtual summer science kits, the Wadesboro Rotary Planetarium and Science Center is excited to announce they will continue to develop kits for all K-5 students in the school district starting with Grade 5.

Items are being purchased and the kits are in the process of being assembled. There will be approximately 10 or more activities in each kit.

Once the kits for each grade level are finished they will be sent to the Elementary Schools in the district. Fifth grade students will receive their kits first. Each school will be responsible for distributing the kits and will notify parents of the appropriate pick up procedure. Classroom teachers will be assisting with the implementation of the activities through their remote learning platform.

The kits are being made possible through many donations of supplies and funds in order to purchase materials as well as instructional staff to assemble the kits. There will be approximately 250 kits available for each grade level. This means 1,500 students x 10 activities = 15,000 hands-on science activities will be completed by Anson County Students during the first nine week grading period!

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